



10c

APR.
NO. 31



House of SECRETS

"The
**HYBRID
MONSTER!"**

I'VE GIVEN THIS
CREATURE THE POWERS
OF MANY ANIMALS --
AND NOW I'M ADDING
THE INTELLIGENCE
OF A **HUMAN
BRAIN!**

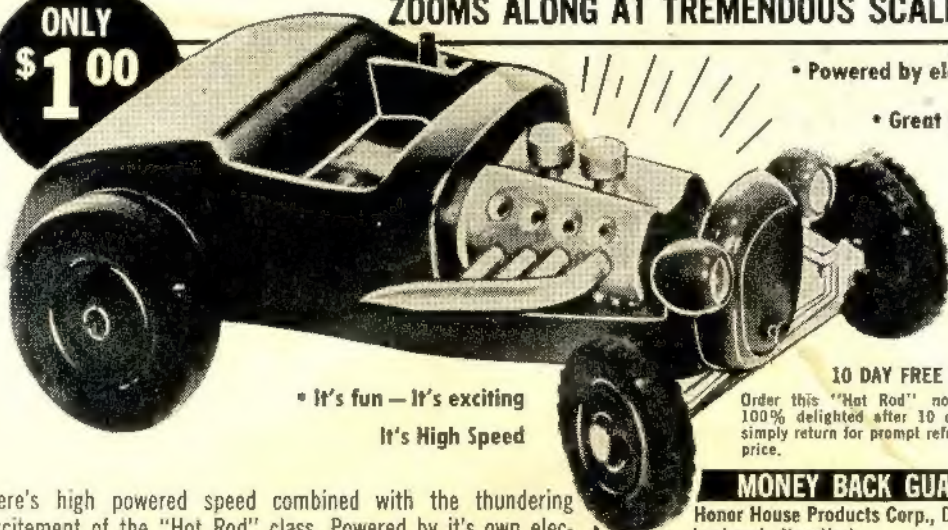


A
**MARK
MERLIN**
MYSTERY

BUILD YOUR OWN HOT ROD

ZOOMS ALONG AT TREMENDOUS SCALE SPEEDS

ONLY
\$1.00



• Powered by electric motor

• Great fun to build

Goes up
& down...
all around
zooms
over hills

• It's fun — It's exciting
It's High Speed

10 DAY FREE TRIAL

Order this "Hot Rod" now. If you are not 100% delighted after 10 day Free Trial then simply return for prompt refund of full purchase price.

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

Honor House Products Corp., Dept. RH-18
Lynbrook, New York

Rush me my "Hot Rod" at once. If I am not 100% delighted after 10 Day Free Trial I will return for prompt refund of full purchase price.

☐ I enclosed \$1 plus 25c shipping charges. Same Money Back Guarantee

☐ Send C.O.D. I will pay postman on delivery plus shipping charges & C.O.D.

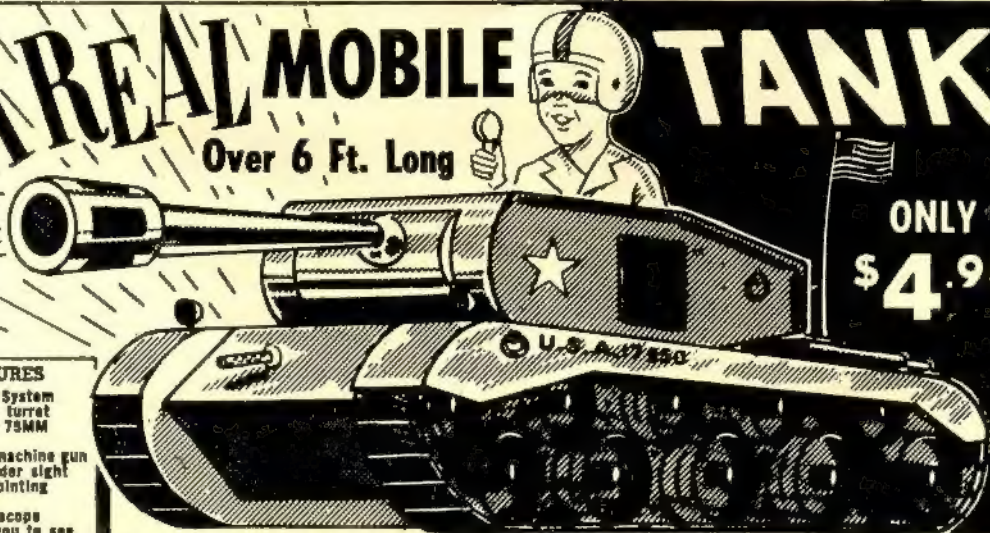
Name.....

Address.....

Here's high powered speed combined with the thundering excitement of the "Hot Rod" class. Powered by it's own electric motors, this marvelous automotive miracle will give you a thrill as it zooms along at tremendous scale speeds. Realistic in detail, it's great fun to build, and even more fun to race up and down courses, over hills and on the thundering straight-away. Imagine the thrill as this speed-merchant outraces all the other kids in the neighborhood. And it's great fun to build. Complete with all parts and instructions. Only \$1 plus 25¢ shipping charges.

A REAL MOBILE TANK

Over 6 Ft. Long



ONLY
\$4.98

FEATURES

- Intercom System
- Revolving Turret
- Elevating 75MM cannon
- Co-axial machine gun
- Range-finder sight for pin-pointing targets
- Real periscopes permits you to see the enemy without exposing yourself
- 2 way radio controls
- Whip antenna and flag

**Large Enough for Two Kids
But Can Be Handled By One**

10 Day Free Trial

Order this sensational "General Patton" Tank on 10 day free trial. If you are not 100% delighted then your purchase price will be refunded.

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

Honor House Products Corp DEPT. TK-97
Lynbrook, New York

Rush my "General Patton" Tank at once. If I am not 100% delighted, I may return after 10 day free trial for prompt refund of full purchase price.

☐ I enclose \$4.98 plus 83c shipping charge.

☐ Send C.O.D. I will pay postman on delivery plus C.O.D. and shipping charge.

Name.....

Address.....

It's Mobile — Pilot gets INSIDE — Guns Swivel — Turret Turns
Imagine your thrill when you get inside this authentic replica of the mighty "General Sherman" tank and power forward to adventure. This six foot hunk of equipment is so realistic with its mighty cannon, swiveling machine gun, simulated treads, and other authentic tank features that its bound to bring squeals of delight from any young warrior. And, when you and a pal get right down into the fully equipped control room and close the cockpit cover — you can bet you're using your mobile power to devastate every imaginary enemy in your path. Sturdily constructed for long periods of fun, it's bound to bring more thrills and adventure than you've ever known from a toy. So don't delay! Act now. Only \$4.98. Because of its gigantic size, we are forced to ask for an additional 83c shipping charges.

IT POSSESSED THE STRENGTH OF A GORILLA--THE FLIGHT OF AN EAGLE--AND THE LEAPING POWER OF A PANTHER... ALL INCREASED A THOUSANDFOLD! BUT WHEN IT ACQUIRED A BRAINPOWER, 1,000 TIMES GREATER THAN THAT OF A HUMAN BEING, MARK MERLIN KNEW THAT EARTH FACED ITS MOST AWESOME MENACE FROM...

the HYBRID MONSTER

A
**MARK
MERLIN
MYSTERY**



"This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition, nor affixed to, nor as part of any advertising, literary or pictorial matter whatsoever."

HOUSE OF SECRETS, No. 31, April, 1960 issue. Published monthly by NATIONAL COMICS PUBLICATIONS, INC., 2nd and Dickey Streets, SPARTA, ILL. Editorial, Executive offices and Subscriptions, 575 LEXINGTON AVENUE, NEW YORK 22, N. Y. Editor: Jack Schiff; Associate Editors: Murray Boltinoff, George Kashdan. SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT SPARTA, ILL. under the act of March 3, 1879. Yearly subscription in the U. S. \$- \$1.50 including postage. Foreign \$3.00 in American funds. For advertising rates address Richard A. Felden & Co., 205

East 42nd Street, New York 17, N. Y. ©1960 by National Comics Publications, Inc. All rights reserved under International and Pan-American Copyright Conventions. Except for those who have authorized use of their names, the stories, characters, and incidents mentioned in this periodical are entirely imaginary and fictitious, and no identification with actual persons, living or dead, is intended or should be inferred.

Printed in U.S.A.

DUSK DESCENDS OVER A REMOTE POLYNESIAN ISLAND, WHERE AN ANXIOUS MEETING TAKES PLACE...

MARK MERLIN!
FORGIVE ME FOR
SUMMONING YOU...
BUT I HEARD YOU
WERE VISITING
NEW GUINEA--
AND I HOPED...

DON'T APOLOGIZE,
CAPTAIN TOBUAI...
I'LL HELP YOU
ALL I CAN!



JUST THEN, THE SOUND OF AN EERIE INCANTATION IS FOLLOWED BY...

THOSE NATIVES--
PERFORMING THE
DEVIL DANCE! ISN'T
THAT THE RITE WHICH IS
SUPPOSED TO CHASE
EVIL SPIRITS?

YES, MR. MERLIN...
THEY REFUSE TO
WORK-- THEY
LIVE IN
CONSTANT
DREAD...



... AND THERE IS
THE REASON!

GOOD GRIEF, MARK!
THAT WHOLE
MOUNTAIN IS
GLOWING!



BUT THAT
IS NOT
ALL ...
LOOK
NOW!

WHAT--? A WEIRD
FLYING CREATURE!
WHERE'D THAT
COME FROM?



I WAS HOPING
THAT YOU, THE
GREAT INVESTIGATOR
OF THE SUPER-
NATURAL, WOULD
BE ABLE TO
EXPLAIN IT!

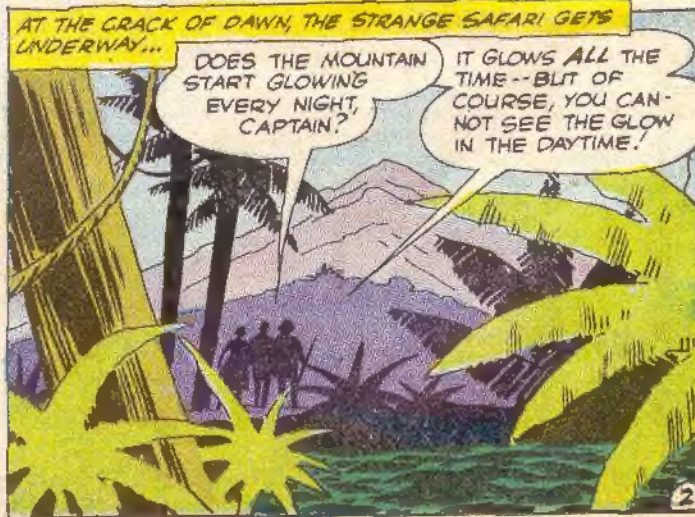
I SEE... VERY
WELL, CAPTAIN--
WE'LL START
OUT FIRST
THING IN THE
MORNING!



AT THE CRACK OF DAWN, THE STRANGE SAFARI GETS UNDERWAY...

DOES THE MOUNTAIN
START GLOWING
EVERY NIGHT,
CAPTAIN?

IT GLOWS ALL THE
TIME-- BUT OF
COURSE, YOU CAN-
NOT SEE THE GLOW
IN THE DAYTIME!



FOR WEARYING HOURS, THE TRACKERS TRUDGE THROUGH THE DENSE WOODS, UNTIL ...

LOOK! THE CREATURE WE SAW FLYING LAST NIGHT!

AND A LAB--SITUATED RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE JUNGLE! KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THIS, CAPTAIN?



WHY, YES... THAT LABORATORY BELONGS TO AN ECCENTRIC SCIENTIST WHO CAME HERE SOME YEARS AGO! HE IS WORKING ON SOME SECRET PROJECT!

HMM... CAPTAIN--KEEP WATCH OVER MY SECRETARY... I'M GOING FORWARD FOR A CLOSER LOOK!



AS THE VALIANT SLEUTH MOVES NOISELESSLY TO THE JUNGLE LAB...

THOSE CAPTIVE BEASTS... WHAT STRANGE PETS FOR A SCIENTIST!



UPON SLIPPING INSIDE...

THERE HE IS... AND FROM THE WAY HE'S INSULATED HIS BODY, HE MUST BE HANDLING SOME RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCE!

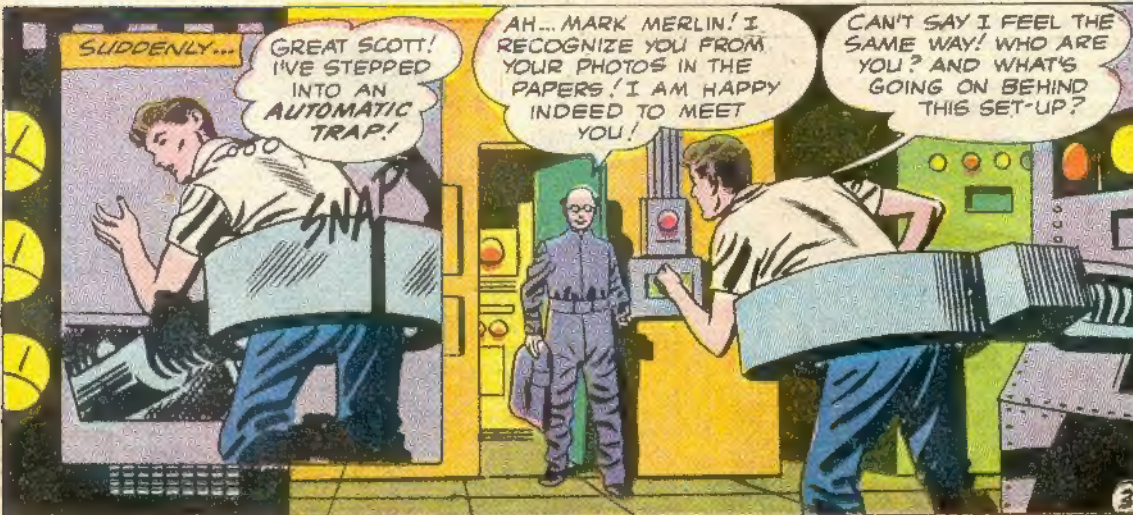


SUDDENLY...

GREAT SCOTT! I'VE STEPPED INTO AN AUTOMATIC TRAP!

AH... MARK MERLIN! I RECOGNIZE YOU FROM YOUR PHOTOS IN THE PAPERS! I AM HAPPY INDEED TO MEET YOU!

CAN'T SAY I FEEL THE SAME WAY! WHO ARE YOU? AND WHAT'S GOING ON BEHIND THIS SET-UP?



JUDGE FOR YOURSELF, MY FRIEND... THIS EXPERIMENTAL HYBRID CREATURE WHICH REPRESENTS MY MASTERPIECE!

YOUR MASTERPIECE?



EXACTLY! THANKS TO MY ENERGY-TRANSFER MACHINE, I HAVE GIVEN IT THE STRENGTH OF A GORILLA, THE FLIGHT OF AN EAGLE, THE LEAPING POWER OF A PANTHER ... ALL MULTIPLIED 1,000 TIMES!



NOW, THANKS TO YOUR TIMELY ARRIVAL, I NO LONGER NEED THIS INEFFICIENT ELECTRONIC BRAIN TO CONTROL IT! INSTEAD, I WILL GIVE IT THE AMPLIFIED BRAIN-POWER OF A HUMAN BEING!



SOON...

GREAT THUNDER, MAN--YOU MUST BE MAD!

MAD, AM I? WAS IT MADNESS THAT ENABLED ME ALONE TO HARNESS THE UNKNOWN POWER OF THIRIDIUM--AN ELEMENT GREATER THAN URANIUM?

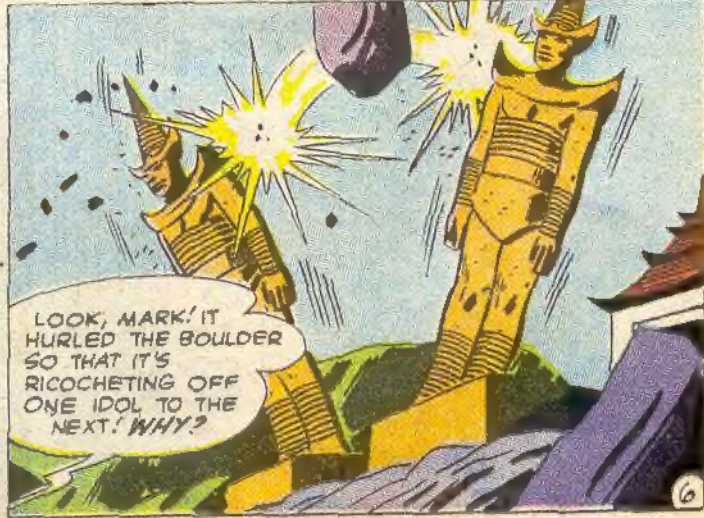


UNSEEN GENERATORS HUM--UNKNOWN FORCES SURGE BETWEEN THE TWO FIGURES...

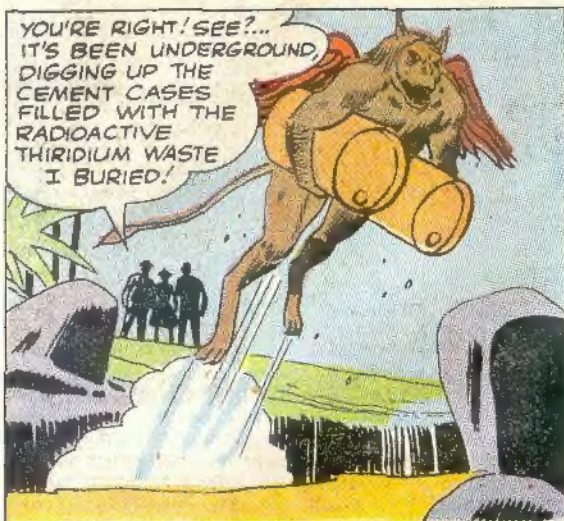
"HA, HA!" IMAGINE--MY CREATURE WITH 1,000 TIMES THE INTELLIGENCE OF MORTAL MAN! WHAT POWER IT WILL HAVE!









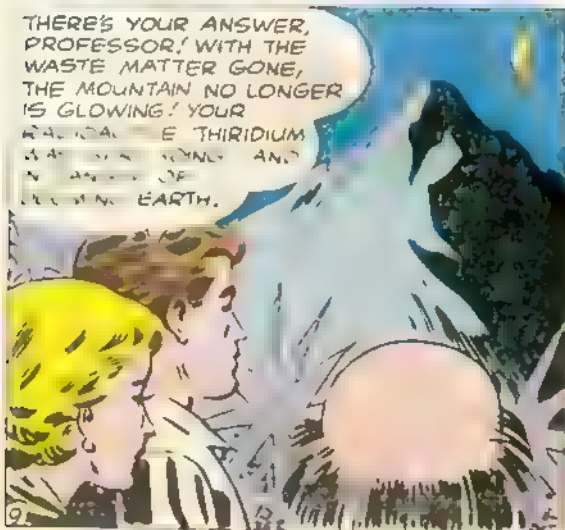


A MOMENT LATER...

GOOD GRIEF! THE WHOLE LAB-AND EVERYTHING IN IT--EXPLODING IN A STRANGE BLAST! WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

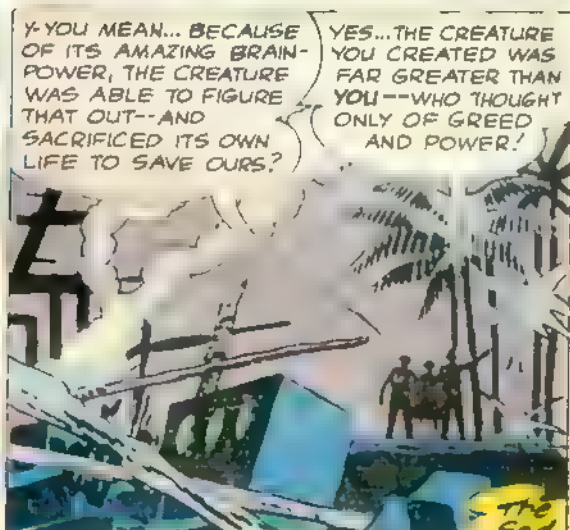


THERE'S YOUR ANSWER, PROFESSOR! WITH THE WASTE MATTER GONE, THE MOUNTAIN NO LONGER IS GLOWING! YOUR RADIATION THIRIDIUM WAS A BOMB AND A BOMB OF EARTH.

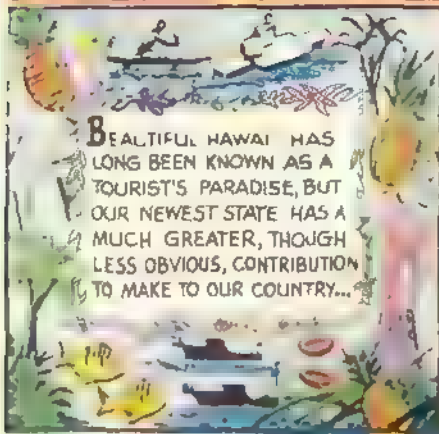


Y-YOU MEAN... BECAUSE OF ITS AMAZING BRAIN-POWER, THE CREATURE WAS ABLE TO FIGURE THAT OUT--AND SACRIFICED ITS OWN LIFE TO SAVE OURS?

YES...THE CREATURE YOU CREATED WAS FAR GREATER THAN YOU--WHO THOUGHT ONLY OF GREED AND POWER!



ALOHA... Hawaii!

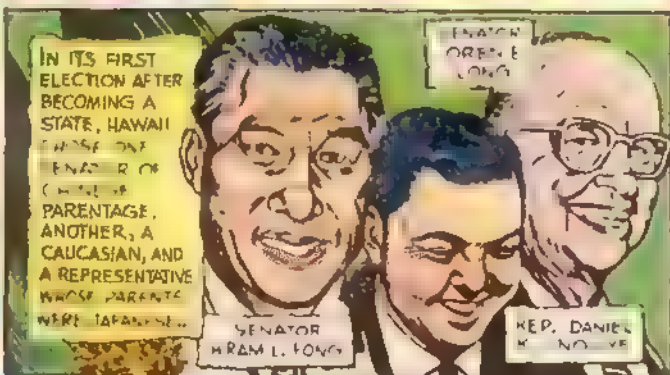
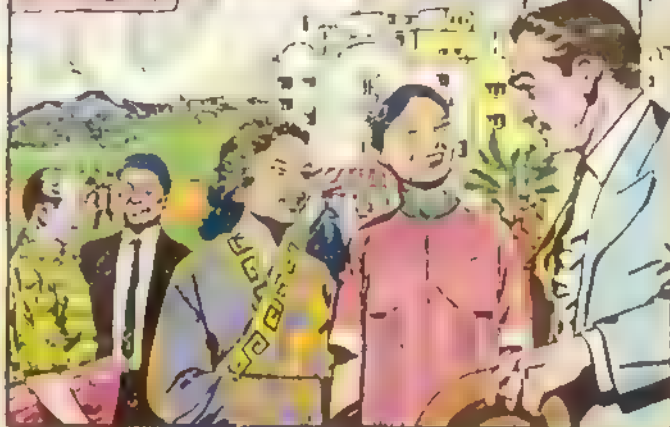


BEAUTIFUL HAWAII HAS LONG BEEN KNOWN AS A TOURIST'S PARADISE, BUT OUR NEWEST STATE HAS A MUCH GREATER, THOUGH LESS OBVIOUS, CONTRIBUTION TO MAKE TO OUR COUNTRY...

AMONG THE HAWAIIAN PEOPLE, THERE ARE MANY DIFFERENT RELIGIONS, ABOUT A TENTH OF THE POPULATION BELONGING TO THE BUDDHIST FAITH...



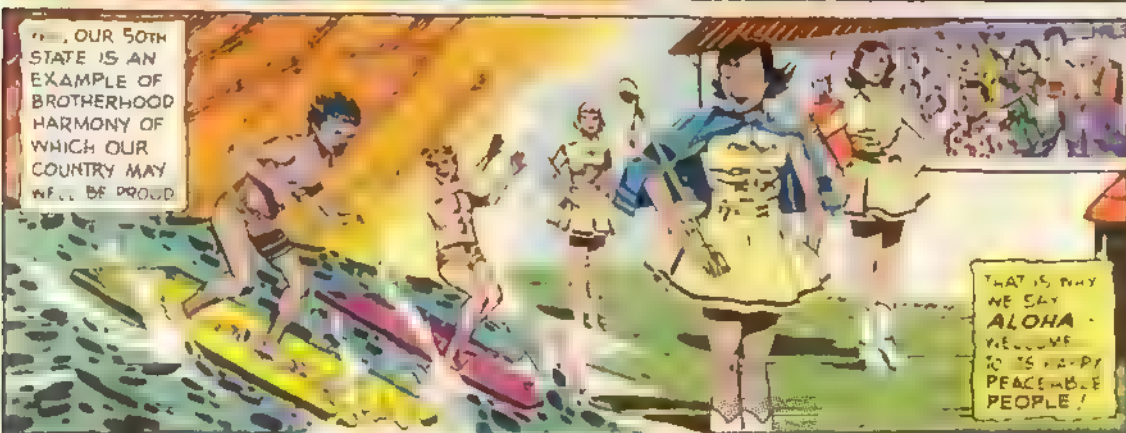
OVER HALF A MILLION CITIZENS, COMING FROM MORE THAN 40 DIFFERENT RACIAL AND CULTURAL ORIGINS, LIVE THERE TOGETHER IN HARMONY.



IN ITS FIRST ELECTION AFTER BECOMING A STATE, HAWAII CHOSE ONE SENATOR OF CHINESE PARENTAGE, ANOTHER, A CAUCASIAN, AND A REPRESENTATIVE WHOSE PARENTS WERE JAPANESE...

SENATOR
HIRAM L. FONG

REP. DANIEL
K. INOUE



...OUR 50TH STATE IS AN EXAMPLE OF BROTHERHOOD HARMONY OF WHICH OUR COUNTRY MAY WELL BE PROUD.

THAT IS WHY WE SAY ALOHA - WELCOME TO ITS HAPPY PEACEABLE PEOPLE!

MYSTERY of the MARTIAN CANALS



MARS BY SCHIAPARELLI
1879

EVER SINCE 1877, WHEN SCHIAPARELLI
DISCOVERED THE "CANALS" ON MARS,
A BITTER CONTROVERSY HAS RAGED
AMONG ASTRONOMERS WHETHER THE
"CANALS" REALLY EXIST. SKY-SCANNERS,
UNABLE TO SEE THE "CANALS" WITH
MODERN TELESCOPES, HAVE SUGGESTED
THAT THE MARKINGS ARE REALLY AN
OPTICAL ILLUSION. WHAT DO *YOU*
THINK?

THIS DRAWING OF MARS, WHICH CONTAINS NO CANALS, WAS GIVEN TO SCHOOLBOYS WHO WERE ASKED TO DRAW THE PICTURE AS THEY SAW IT...



HERE ARE TWO SKETCHES DRAWN BY STUDENTS. NOTICE THE CANAL-LIKE MARKINGS--ALTHOUGH NO SUCH LINES APPEAR IN THE ORIGINAL DRAWINGS...



ADVERTISEMENT

GIVEN! PREMIUMS IN CASH GIVEN!

OVER
65
YEARS

DON'T DELAY

GET NOW

BE FIRST!

448

WE TRUST YOU!

**ACT
NOW!**

YOURS FREE!

Genuine Money from Nations of the World
For sending coupon Now!

REAL FOREIGN COINS

From such countries as

**ACT
NOW**

MAIL COUPON—Foreign Coins 30% Free

Wilson Chemical Co.

Dept 115 44 Tyrone, Pa. Date

Gentlemen Please send me on trial 14 packages of White CLOVER NE Brand Acety to sell at 50c a package. I will return amount asked with 30 days net on a Premium or keep Cash Commission as explained under Premium wanted in Catalog sent with order, postage paid to start. Be sure to send my FREE FOREIGN COIN COLLECTION

Name _____

● **Answer:** A

\$1 *q'Land i'u -j-d...piqqipayw Tf pD- +E-TT P6 -AAd- dLPT R.D 0+07z zidmoy -d BGA PT LcP/zfomk-BK

Town. _____ Zone _____ State _____

[illegible]

NAME HERE


WILSON CHEMICAL CO.
DEPT 115-44 TYRONE, PA

DEPT 115-44 TYRONE, PA



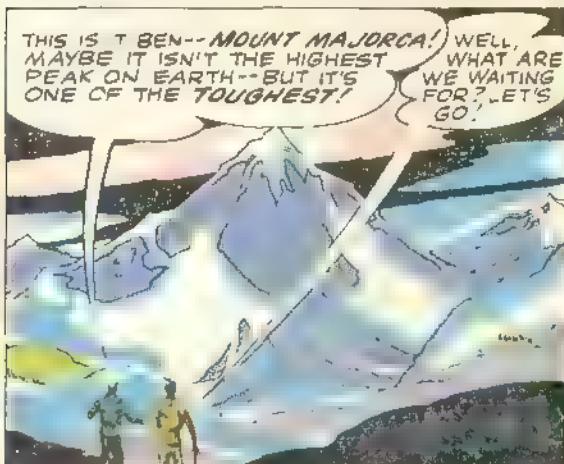
THEY LIVED ALONE... SHUT AWAY FROM THE REST OF THE WORLD... A COLONY OF WEIRD CREATURES... LABORING DAY AND NIGHT ON A MYSTERIOUS PEOPLE THAT REALLY CONCERNED OUR ENTIRE PLANET! WHAT WAS THEIR MISSION? WE FINALLY FOUND OUT-- BUT NOT UNTIL WE WERE ALMOST DOOMED BY...

the CREATURES on the CLIFF



ONCE WE REACH THE TOP, BEN, OUR WORRIES WILL BE OVER!

BEN DANTON AND I HAD CONQUERED EVERY MAJOR MOUNTAIN IN THE WORLD--EXCEPT ONE.



THIS IS T BEN--MOUNT MAJORCA! WELL, MAYBE IT ISN'T THE HIGHEST PEAK ON EARTH--BUT IT'S ONE OF THE TOUGHEST!

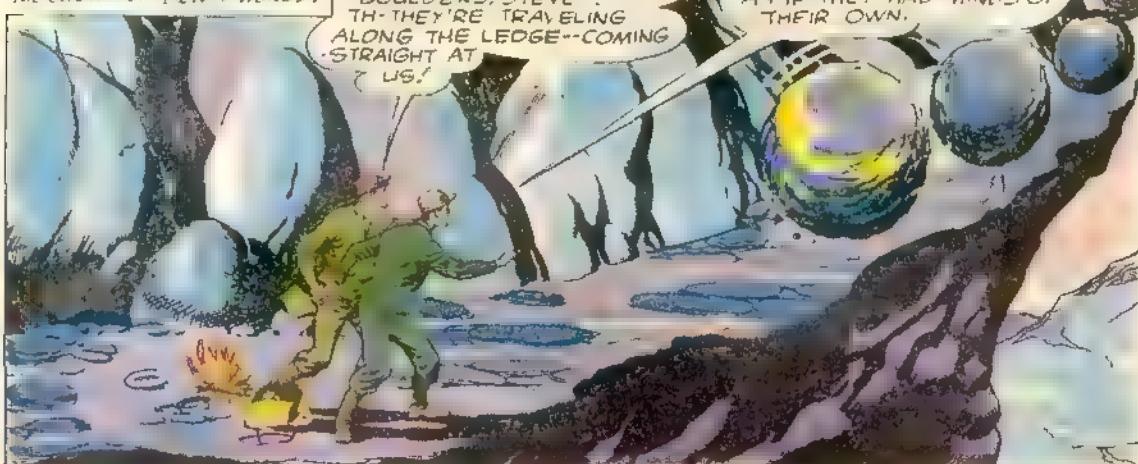
WELL, WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR? LET'S GO!

SO UP WE WENT--AND BY MID-DAY...



SO FAR, IT'S BEEN AS EASY AS WALKING UP A HILL! HERE'S HOPING OUR LUCK HOLDS UP!

ALL AT ONCE AS IF IN MOCKERY OF BEN'S WORDS.



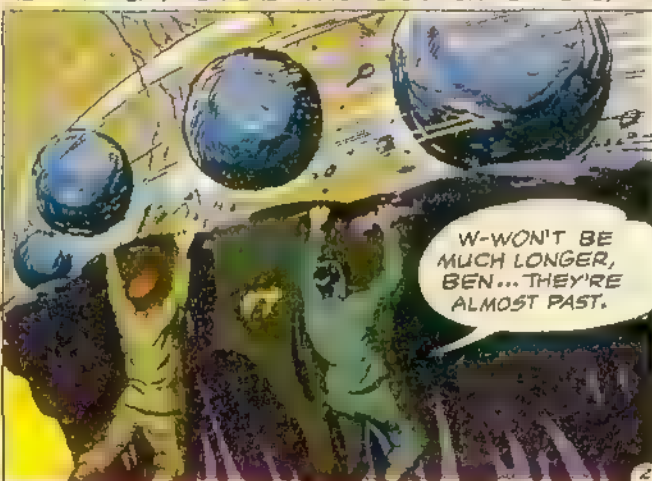
GOOD GRIEF! THOSE BIG BOULDER'S STEVE... TH- THEY'RE TRAVELING ALONG THE LEDGE--COMING STRAIGHT AT US!

Y-YES. THEY ACT AS IF-- AS IF THEY HAD MINDS OF THEIR OWN.

QUICK, BEN--BEFORE WE'RE RUN OVER BY THOSE RAMPAGING ROCKS!



NEXT MOMENT, WE WERE HANGING ON FOR DEAR LIFE, AS...

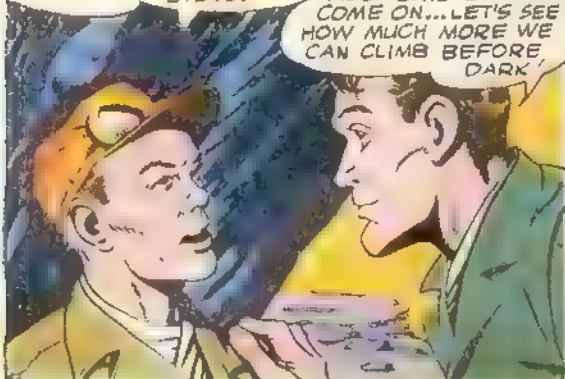


W-WON'T BE MUCH LONGER, BEN... THEY'RE ALMOST PAST.

WHEN WE CLIMBED BACK TO THE LEDGE...

S-SOMETHING CRAZY IS
HAPPENING AROUND HERE!
LET'S GO BACK DOWN,
STEVE!

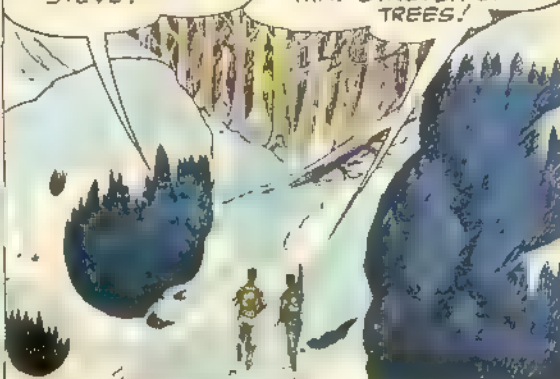
STEADY, BEN...
WE'VE SEEN
PLENTY OF FREAK
ACCIDENTS BEFORE!
COME ON...LET'S SEE
HOW MUCH MORE WE
CAN CLIMB BEFORE
DARK!



WE MADE PRETTY GOOD TIME FOR THE NEXT
QUARTER-MILE...

HOW FAR UP DO YOU
WANT TO GO TODAY,
STEVE?

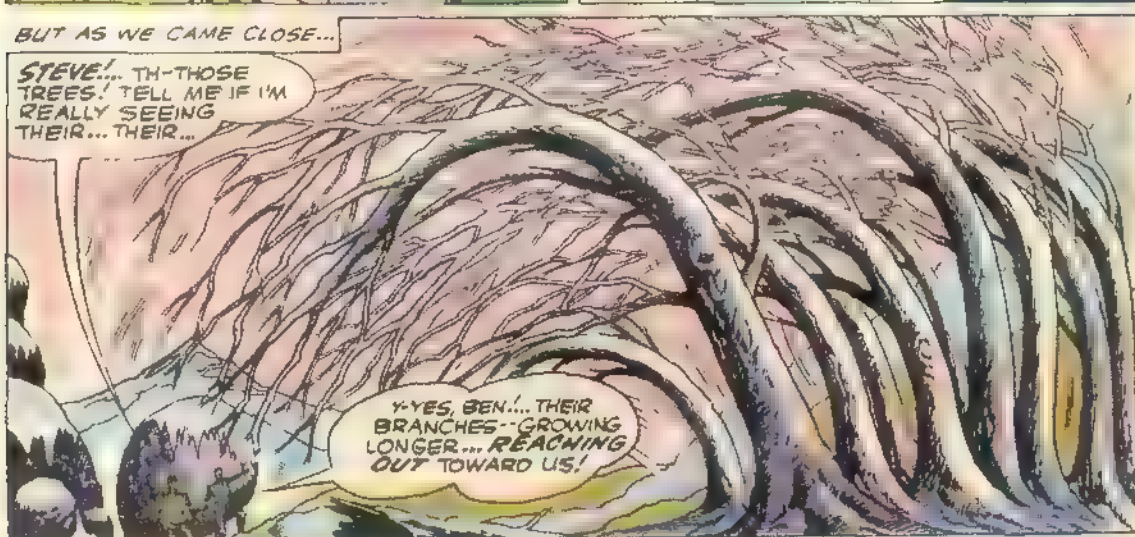
OH...I FIGURE WE CAN
MAKE CAMP FOR THE
NIGHT AFTER WE PASS
THAT STRETCH OF
TREES!



BUT AS WE CAME CLOSE...

STEVE!... TH-THOSE
TREES! TELL ME IF I'M
REALLY SEEING
THEIR... THEIR...

Y-YES, BEN... THEIR
BRANCHES--GROWING
LONGER... REACHING
OUT TOWARD US!



THIS IS LIKE AN
INSANE NIGHT-
MARE! WHAT'LL
WE DO?

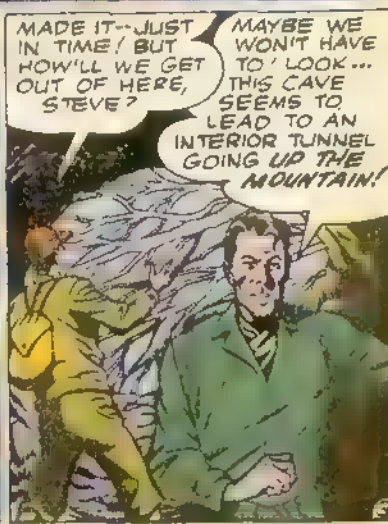
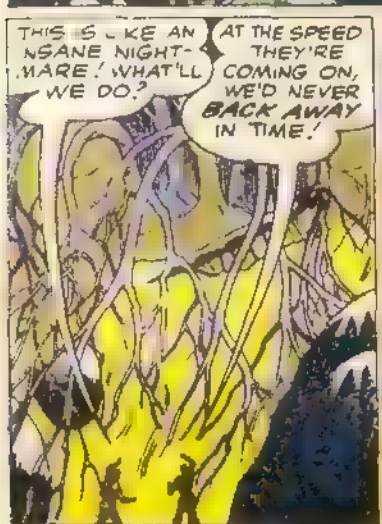
AT THE SPEED
THEY'RE
COMING ON,
WE'D NEVER
BACK AWAY
IN TIME!

THAT'S WHEN I SPOTTED IT...

THAT MOUNTAIN CAVE
OPENING... QUICKLY--
INSIDE, BEN!

MADE IT--JUST
IN TIME! BUT
HOW'LL WE GET
OUT OF HERE,
STEVE?

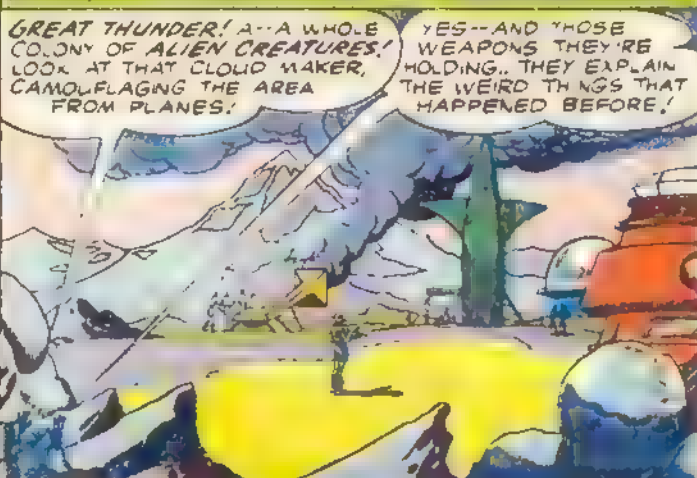
MAYBE WE
WON'T HAVE
TO LOOK...
THIS CAVE
SEEMS TO
LEAD TO AN
INTERIOR TUNNEL
GOING UP THE
MOUNTAIN!



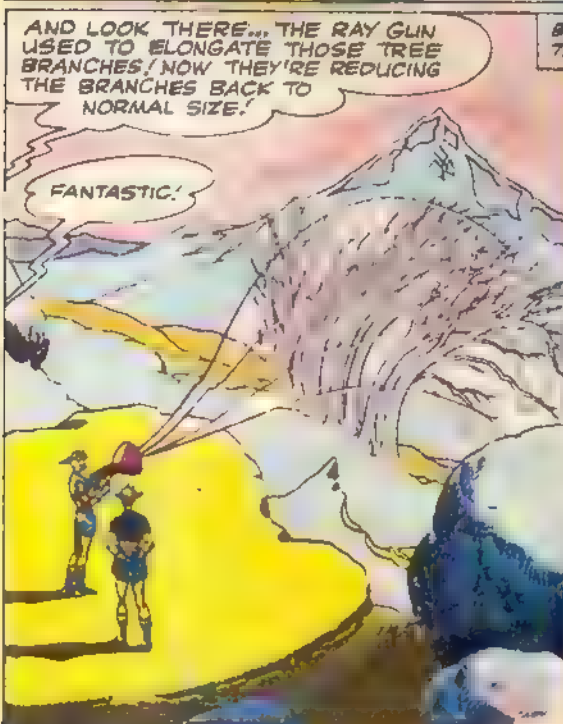
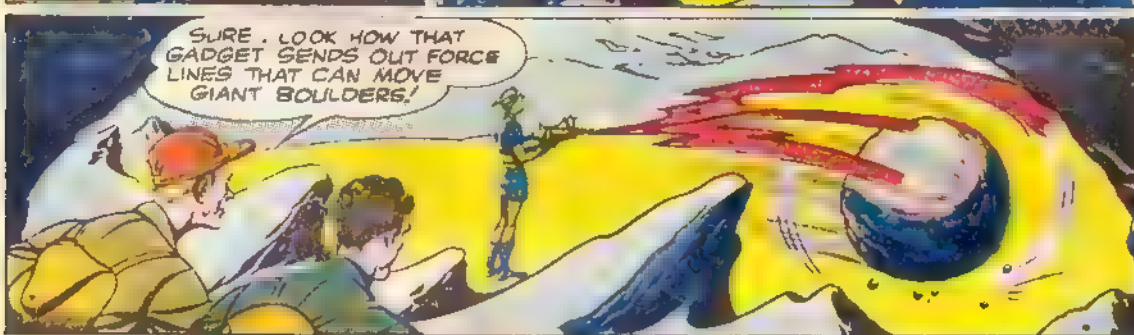
TALK ABOUT WEIRD MOUNTAIN CLIMBS, THIS ONE REALLY TOOK THE CAKE...



INDEED, AS WE FINALLY REACHED THE MOUNTAIN'S PEAK...



YES--AND THOSE WEAPONS THEY'RE HOLDING.. THEY EXPLAIN THE WEIRD THNGS THAT HAPPENED BEFORE!



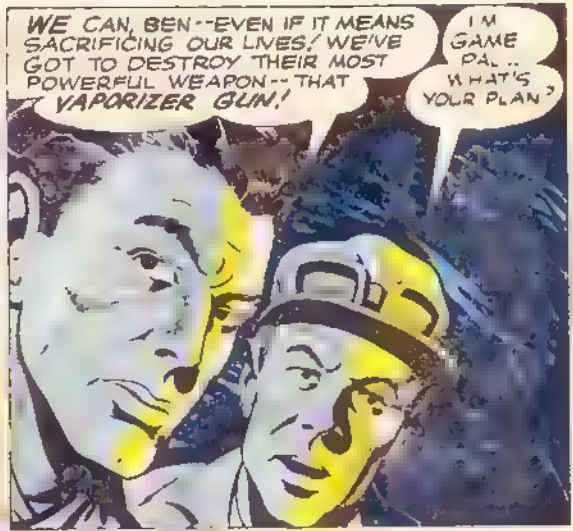
BUT IT WAS THE NEXT SIGHT THAT REALLY STRUCK TERROR TO OUR HEARTS...



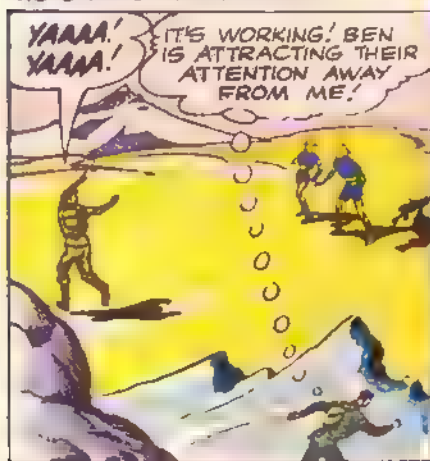
SHHH...WE'RE CLOSE ENOUGH NOW TO LISTEN IN TO THEIR THOUGHTS. THEY "CONVERSE" BY MENTAL TELEPATHY! LISTEN...



HOUSE OF SECRETS



A FEW QUICK INSTRUCTIONS--AND THEN WE SWUNG INTO ACTION...



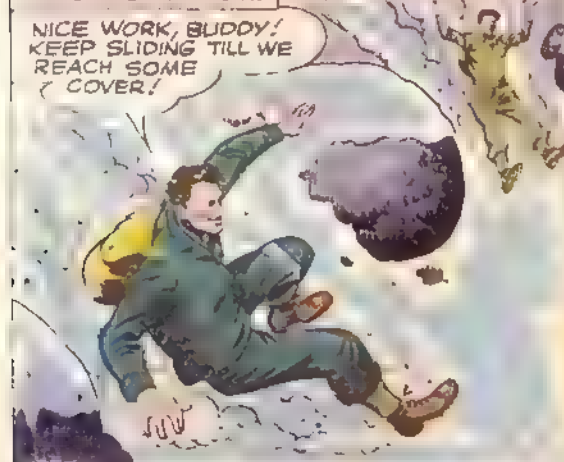
THE NEXT MOVE WAS MINE-- BUT WHEN I REACHED THE WEAPON...



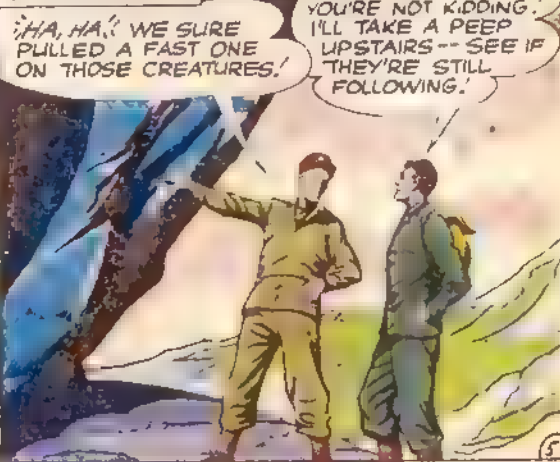
SO I DID THE NEXT BEST THING...

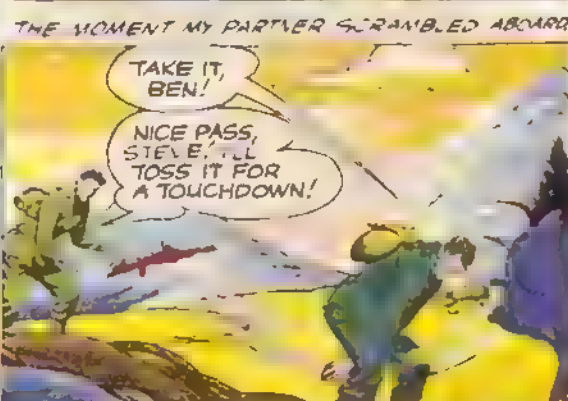
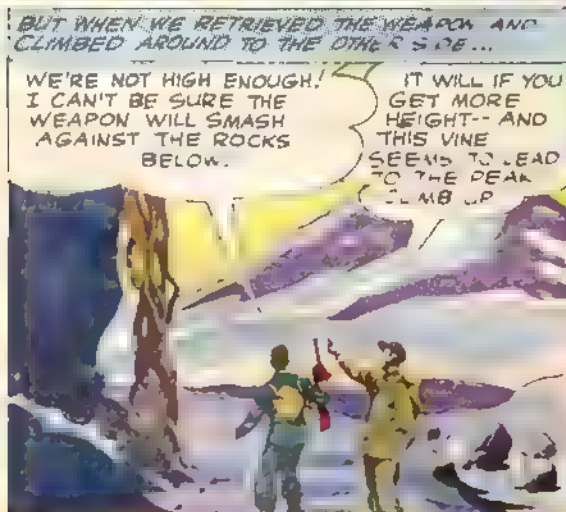
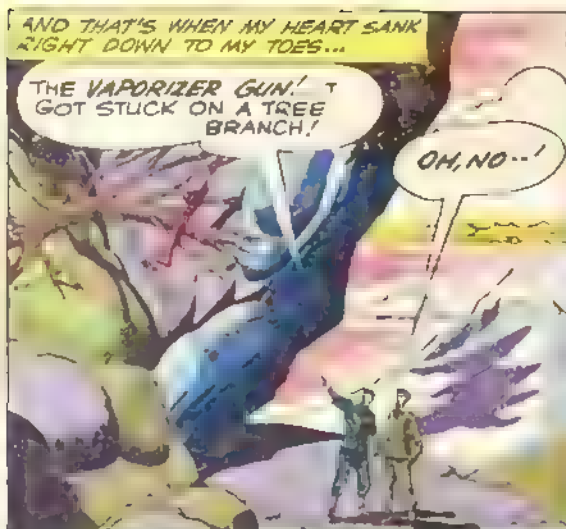


AND THEN WE TOOK OFF--BY THE SHORTEST POSSIBLE ROUTE...



ONCE OUT OF VIEW, WE PAUSED TO ADMIRE OURSELVES...







HOUSE OF SECRETS



BEN MADE GOOD ON HIS TONG-- AND THAT'S WHEN WE GOT THE BIGGEST SHOCK OF ALL...

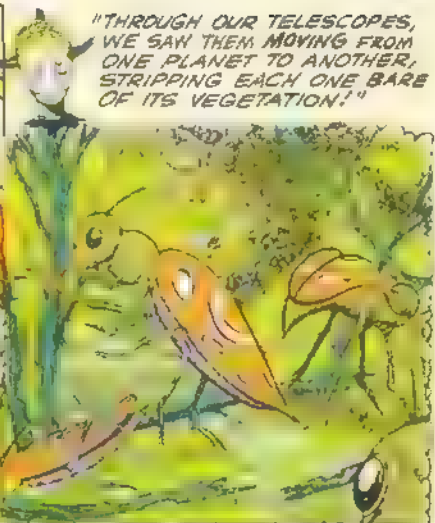
FOOLS! YOU HAVE JUST DOOMED YOUR OWN PLANET!

HUH--? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

OUR ONLY PURPOSE HERE IS TO INTERCEPT A HORDE OF GIANT SPACE LOCUSTS WHICH WILL SOON LAND ON THIS VERY SPOT!

LOCUSTS? WH-WHAT SORT OF LOCUSTS?

"THROUGH OUR TELESCOPES, WE SAW THEM MOVING FROM ONE PLANET TO ANOTHER, STRIPPING EACH ONE BARE OF ITS VEGETATION!"



"WE CAUGHT UP TO THEM JUST AS THEY WERE ENTERING YOUR SOLAR SYSTEM."

WHILE MIGRATING IN SPACE, THEY SPREAD OUT OVER TOO WIDE AN AREA!

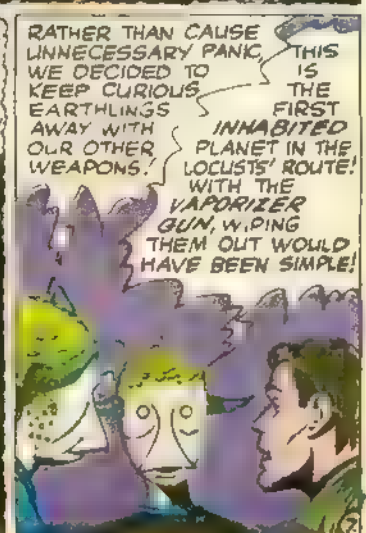
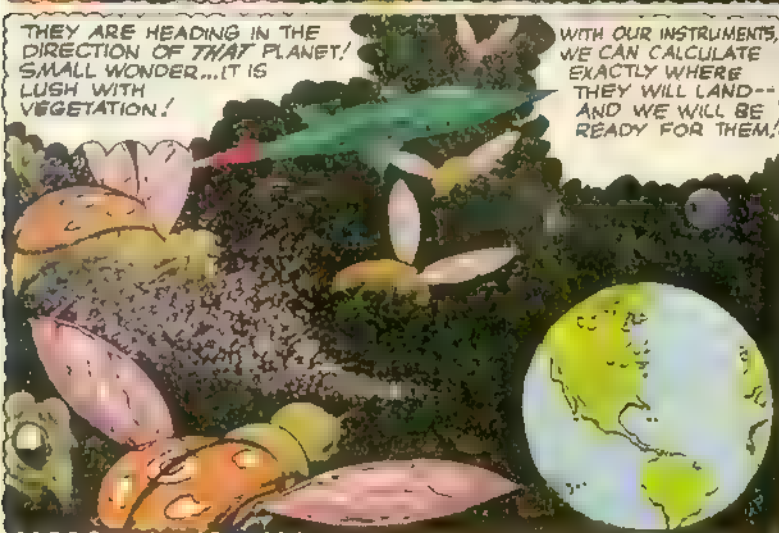
TRUE...THE ONLY WAY TO DESTROY THEM ALL IS BY WAITING UNTIL THEY CLUSTER AT THEIR NEXT DESTINATION!



THEY ARE HEADING IN THE DIRECTION OF THAT PLANET! SMALL WONDER...IT IS LUSH WITH VEGETATION!

WITH OUR INSTRUMENTS, WE CAN CALCULATE EXACTLY WHERE THEY WILL LAND-- AND WE WILL BE READY FOR THEM!

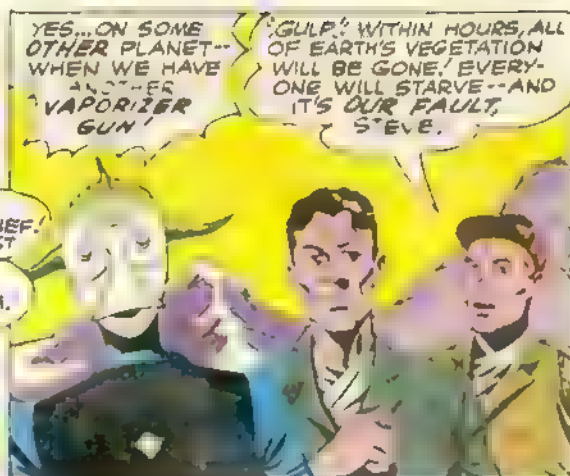
RATHER THAN CAUSE UNNECESSARY PANIC, WE DECIDED TO KEEP CURIOUS EARTHINGS AWAY WITH OUR OTHER WEAPONS. THIS IS THE FIRST INHABITED PLANET IN THE LOCUSTS' ROUTE! WITH THE VAPORIZER GUN, WIPING THEM OUT WOULD HAVE BEEN SIMPLE!





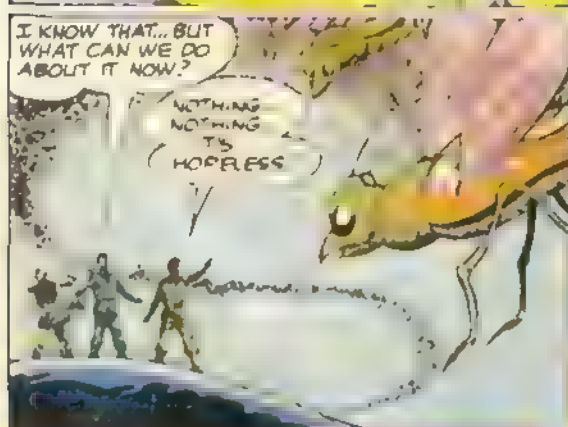
LOOK! THE SPACE LOCUSTS... THEY ARE ARRIVING ON SCHEDULE!

GOOD GRIEF! THERE MUST BE SOME OTHER WAY TO STOP THEM.



YES... ON SOME OTHER PLANET-- WHEN WE HAVE ANOTHER VAPORIZER GUN!

'GULP.' WITHIN HOURS, ALL OF EARTH'S VEGETATION WILL BE GONE! EVERYONE WILL STARVE-- AND IT'S OUR FAULT, STEVE.



I KNOW THAT... BUT WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT IT NOW?

NOTHING NOTHING IS HOPELESS



WAIT! THIS WEAPON YOU USED TO ENLARGE THOSE TREE BRANCHES... IT'S GOT A REVERSE SWITCH, HASN'T IT?

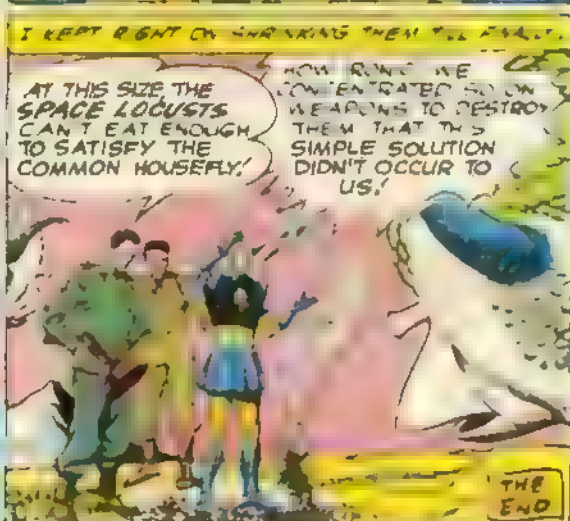
YES, YES-- RIGHT HERE!



I SET THE CONTROLS, TOOK DEAD AIM, AND...

STEVE! THE SPACE LOCUSTS-- TH--THEY'RE GETTING SMALLER!

SURE... THE REVERSE OF THE ENLARGER RAY IS DOING IT!



I KEPT RIGHT ON SHAKING THEM TILL THEY...

AT THIS SIZE THE SPACE LOCUSTS CAN'T EAT ENOUGH TO SATISFY THE COMMON HOUSEFLY!

HOW RUDY WE CONCENTRATED SO ON WEAPONS TO DESTROY THEM THAT THIS SIMPLE SOLUTION DIDN'T OCCUR TO US!

THE END

The Man Who Conquered TIME!

FOR AGES, MEN HAVE DREAMED OF RECAPTURING THE PAST—EXPLORING THE EXCITING, UNKNOWN EVENTS OF YESTERYEAR! AND NOW...

Rip Hunter TIME MASTER

MAKES THAT DREAM COME TRUE!

TRAVEL ALONG WITH HIM, ON ANOTHER DARING ADVENTURE, IN THE AMAZING SPHERE THAT SMASHES THE TIME BARRIER—INTO THE

AGE of SORCERY!

RIP HUNTER AND HIS COMPANIONS UNARMED—ENTER THE VALLEY OF MONSTERS. HOW CAN THEY BARE THE FANTASTIC POWER OF THE SINISTER WIZARD OF RITANNIA?



READ THIS 3-PART ACTION-PACKED STORY...

"CAPTIVES of the MEDIEVAL SORCERER!"

IN THE LATEST ISSUE OF...
SHOWCASE



THE PERFECT POTION

"TRUE," giggled the stooped, bearded little man, "my tiny store is off the beaten path, and only opens after dark. At most, I get only two or three curious customers a week—stray passersby, like yourself—but I make out quite splendidly."

"And what, exactly, do you sell?" I asked sarcastically, figuring him for a complete crackpot.

He motioned to the countless jars of chemicals lining his dusty shelves. "They all add up to just two products. One I call the perfect potion."

"Perfect potion, eh? What'll it do for me?"

"Make you nothing less than the perfect man. To the ladies, you'll be the handsomest creature in creation. To the scholars, you'll be the most brilliant brain ever born. To athletes, you'll be nothing less than Superman himself. Strictly illusions, you understand, based on an aura which will emanate from you."

"Of course," I agreed, not knowing whether to pity him or laugh in his face. "How much does the potion cost?"

"Only a dollar for a vial."

"And the second potion you mentioned?"

"That's the antidote. Costs \$10,000—a real bargain, I'd say."

Now I was sure the poor man was insane. His words—his lies, that is—were senseless ravings. To humor him, I dropped a dollar on the counter. "Okay, old fellow," I said, "give me the perfect potion."

From under the counter, he lifted the vial of red liquid, opened it, offered it to me. "Go ahead," he urged, "drink!"

With one gulp, I downed the stuff, then departed, still full of pity for the little lunatic I headed straight home, where I fell into a deep sleep.

On my way to work, the following

morning, I had the distinct sensation that everyone was looking at me in awe. Some, I thought, were even following me, as if dying to make my acquaintance. Must be my imagination, I figured, what with the event of the night before.

But at the office, there was no doubt about it. No matter what I said, my co-workers gaped at me, as if I'd uttered a world-shaking pronouncement. My every wisecrack brought rollicking laughter. Not only that—but the secretaries practically swooned in my presence, and the boss himself begged me to join his family for dinner.

That's right, it was working! The perfect potion somehow had everyone thinking I was the perfect human being!

My reputation seemed to spread rapidly. Professors . . . ball-players . . . movie stars—anyone you can name . . . they all began phoning me, dying to meet me. Not an idle moment did I have in the weeks that followed. Day and night, the phone was ringing, visitors were coming to my door. They wouldn't let me eat or sleep—there wasn't a single instant of privacy for me.

Before long, I was an irritable, nervous wreck. I'd have given anything to become a plain, ordinary man again.

Anything? And then I remembered I raced to the bank, and withdrew all my savings. I sold all my furniture, borrowed money, pawned my every possession—until I finally had \$10,000.

Back at the little shop, I was frantic as I plunked the cash down on the counter. "The antidote," I pleaded. "The antidote to the perfect potion."

"But of course," the stooped shopkeeper answered with a grin, producing a vial of blue liquid, reaching for my money. "I knew you'd return, sooner or later. They always come back for the antidote."

FROM OUT OF ITS WATERY HOME IT CAME--A FANTASTIC CREATURE COMPOSED OF THE SEA
ITSELF--BENT ON ONE MISSION: VENGEANCE AGAINST THE MAN WHO DARED TO DEEY AN
ANCIENT LEGEND. AND DR. HUNTLEY LEARNED THAT THERE WAS NO PLACE TO HIDE FROM
THE FURY OF...

the HUMAN WAVE



IN A SOUTHERN COASTAL CAFE, WHERE WEALTHY SPORTSMAN DIRK HUNTLEY AND HIS FIANCEE, BRENDA, PAUSE ON A TREASURE HUNT.

PLEASE--YOU MUST TELL ME...WHY IS EVERYONE AROUND HERE TRYING TO STOP ME FROM FINDING THE JEWELLED SWORD OF LATOUR?

FOR YOUR OWN PROTECTION, YOUNG MAN! THERE IS A LEGEND...



...WHICH BEGAN WHEN THE CRUEL PIRATE, JEAN LATOUR, RANSACKED A VESSEL AND FOUND

A PRICELESS JEWELLED SWORD! WHAT A TREASURE!...I WILL CARRY IT FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE!



"BUT, AT THAT VERY MOMENT, A STRANGE FORCE AROSE FROM AMONG HIS VICTIMS

THAT WILL NOT BE FOR VERY LONG, LATOUR--FOR THE TIME HAS COME TO PAY FOR YOUR MANY CRIMES!

A SORCERER!



AND IN THE NEXT SECOND--

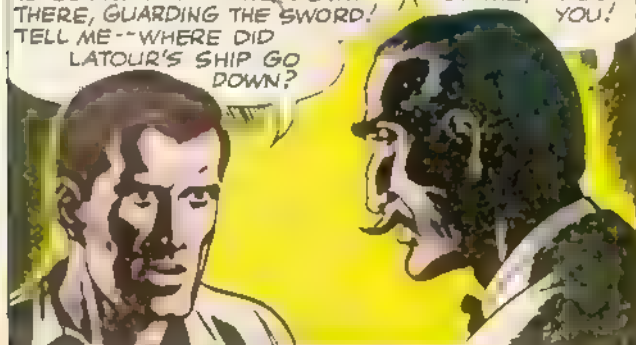
HE HE HAS CREATED A HUMAN WAVE!

AVE NOW LET THE SWORD BE A SYMBOL AND WARNING TO MEN OF GREED! WHOEVER SEEKS IT SHALL KNOW THIS SAME FATE, LATOUR!



SO THAT'S IT!...THERE'S SUPPOSED TO BE A HUMAN WAVE DOWN THERE, GUARDING THE SWORD! TELL ME--WHERE DID LATOUR'S SHIP GO DOWN?

NO, NO--DO NOT ASK ME, I BEG YOU!



COME, COME--HERE'S \$25 TO QUIET YOUR FEARS!

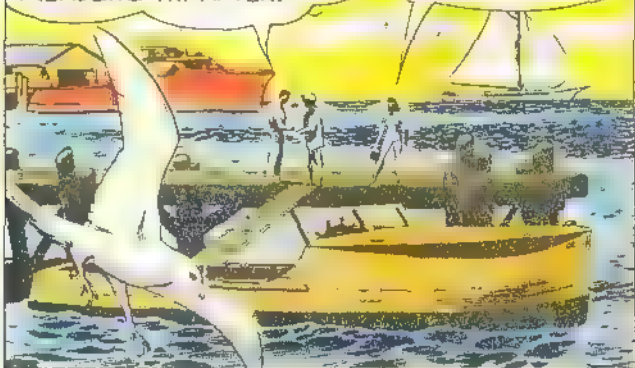
VERY WELL, YOUNG MAN--SINCE YOU ARE SO ANXIOUS TO DIE! GO 50 YARDS NORTH FROM THE ABANDONED LIGHTHOUSE... AND MAY THE ELEMENTS PROTECT YOU!



SHORTLY, AS THE ADVENTURERS REACH THE WHARF...

\$100 TO RENT THIS LEAKY TUB?
YOU'RE ROBBING ME, MY MAN--
BUT IT'S WORTH IT FOR THE
TREASURE I'M AFTER!

WAIT, DIRK-- THAT
LEGEND... IT'S
FRIGHTENED ME!



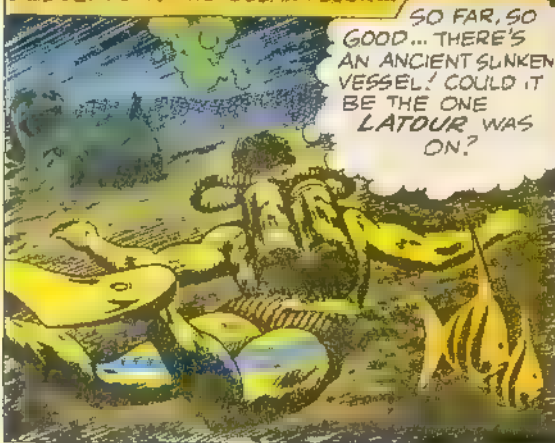
DON'T BE SILLY, BRENDA...
YOU KNOW YOURSELF
THAT SEAFOLK ARE FULL
OF SUPERSTITIOUS
YARNS!

I SUPPOSE
YOU'RE RIGHT...
THOUGH I
STILL CAN'T
HELP WONDERING!



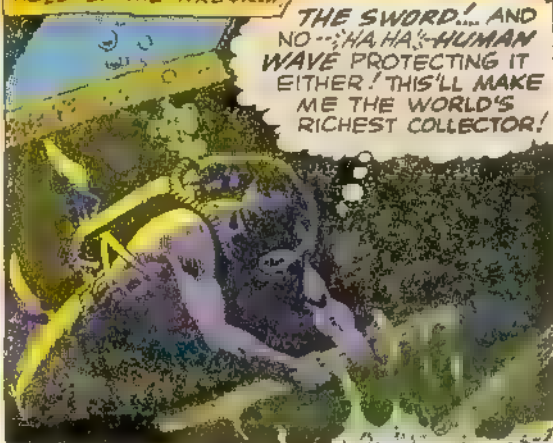
FOLLOWING THE WAITER'S DIRECTIONS, DIRK SOON
DESCENDS TO THE OCEAN FLOOR...

SO FAR, SO
GOOD... THERE'S
AN ANCIENT SUNKEN
VESSEL! COULD IT
BE THE ONE
LATOUR WAS
ON?



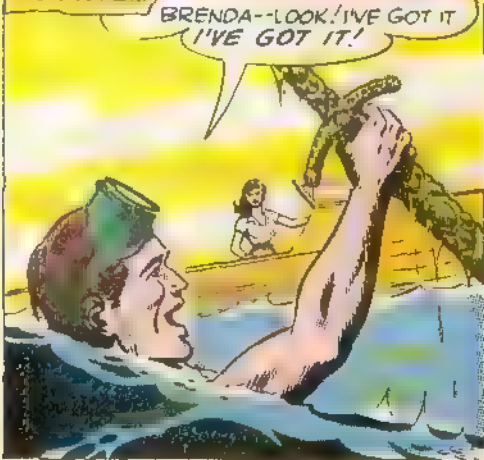
THE ANSWER COMES MINUTES LATER, IN THE
HOLD OF THE WRECK...

THE SWORD... AND
NO-- HA HA-- HUMAN
WAVE PROTECTING IT
EITHER! THIS'LL MAKE
ME THE WORLD'S
RICHEST COLLECTOR!



SWIFTLY THE SPORTSMAN SURFACES WITH
HIS PRIZE...

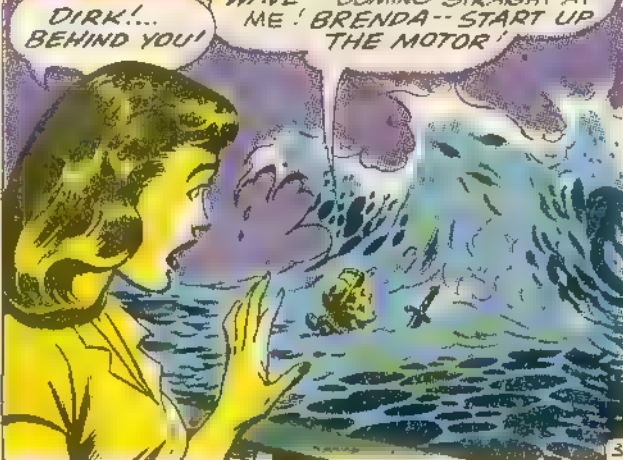
BRENDA--LOOK! I'VE GOT IT
I'VE GOT IT!

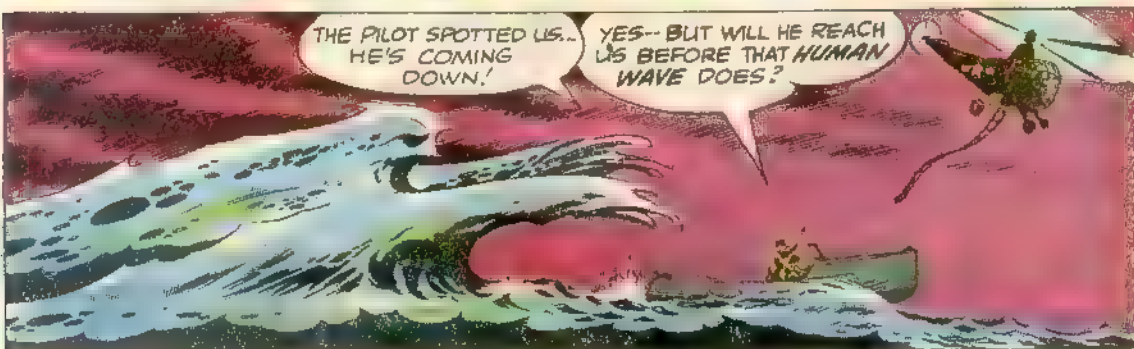
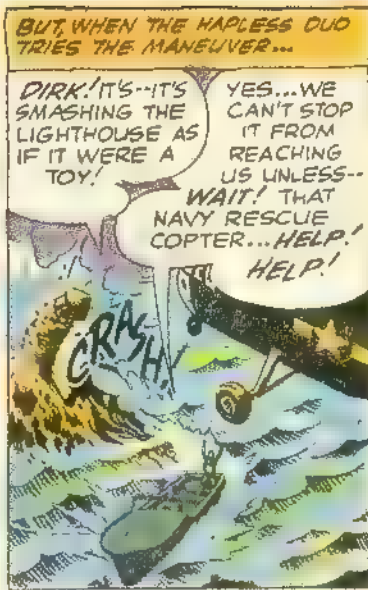


BUT, SUDDENLY...

DIRK!--
BEHIND YOU!

GOOD GRIEF! TH-- THE HUMAN
WAVE-- COMING STRAIGHT AT
ME! BRENDA-- START UP
THE MOTOR!







HOUSE OF SECRETS



BUT AFTER THEY WERE CLAMBERED INTO THE COCKPIT...

GREAT THUNDER!... THAT THING IS FOLLOWING OUR COURSE! AND YOU KNOW, MISTER-- SOONER OR LATER, WE'LL HAVE TO LAND!

TH-THEN... IT'S SURE TO GET YOU, DIRK! OH-- WHAT'LL WE DO?



HEAD FOR SHORE, PILOT!... WE'LL SEE WHAT HAPPENS TO THAT WATERY BEAST WHEN IT HITS DRY LAND!

ROGER! I'LL BANK NEAR THAT GROUNDED WRECK!



BUT AS THE COPTER STREAKS AWAY FROM THE SEA...

IT'S NO USE THE HUMAN WAVE IS FOLLOWING US ASHORE...



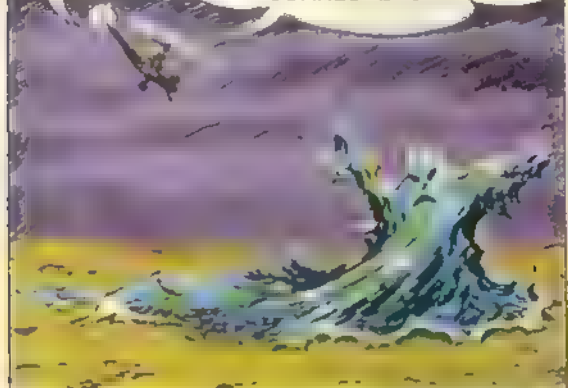
...AND DESTROYING EVERYTHING IN ITS PATH. WHAT'LL WE DO?

KEEP AWAY FROM POPULATED AREAS WHILE WE TRY TO FIGURE OUT SOMETHING!



ODD IT SEEMS TO SHRINK AS IT MOVES ALONG

RIGHT THAT'S BECAUSE THE GROUND KEEPS ABSORBING PART OF IT. ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS WAIT TILL IT'S COMPLETELY SOAKED UP!

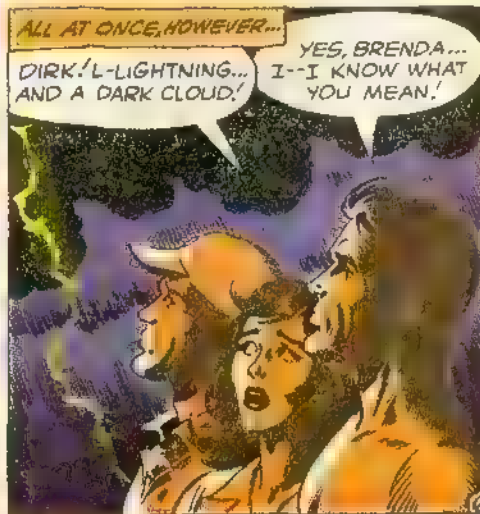
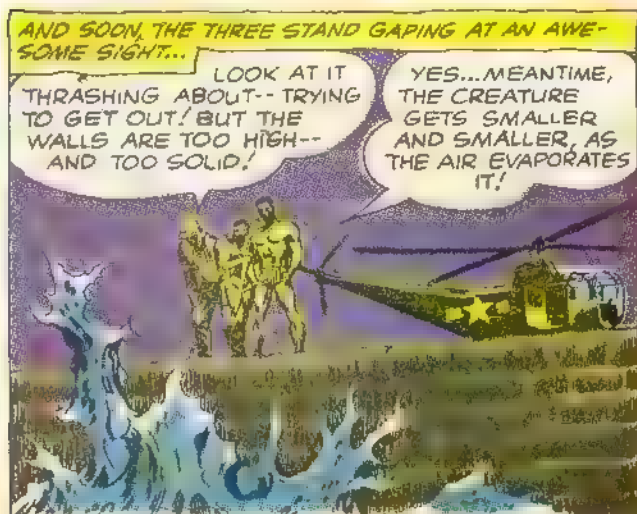
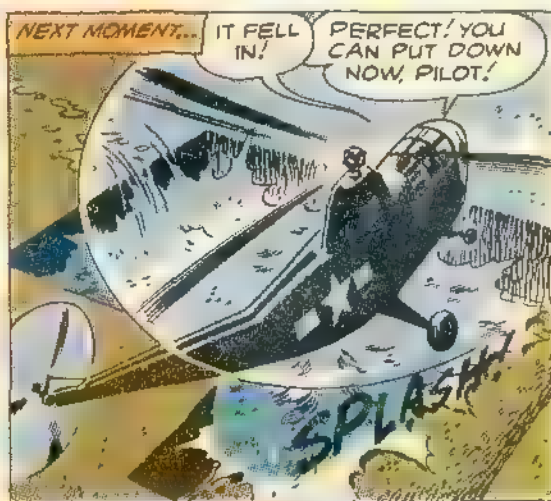
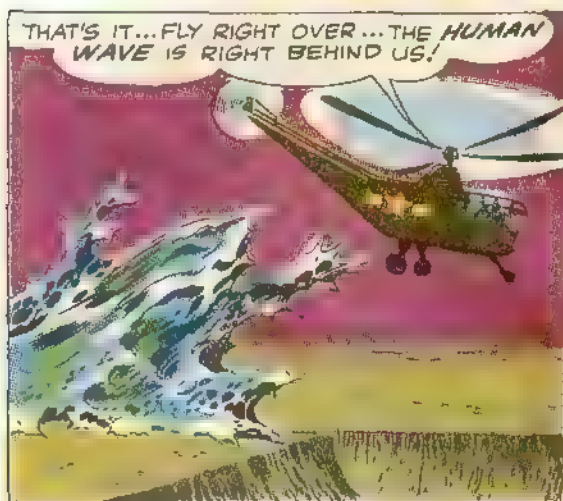
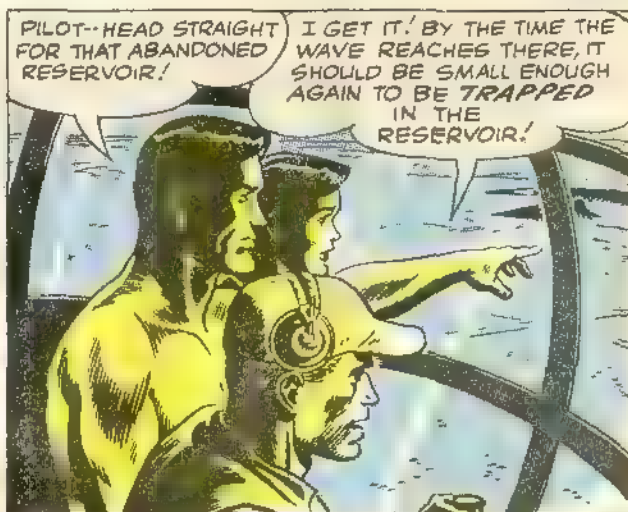


BUT, SECONDS LATER...

LOOK, DIRK! IT'S ABSORBING THE WATER FROM THAT POOL IT'S PASSING OVER!

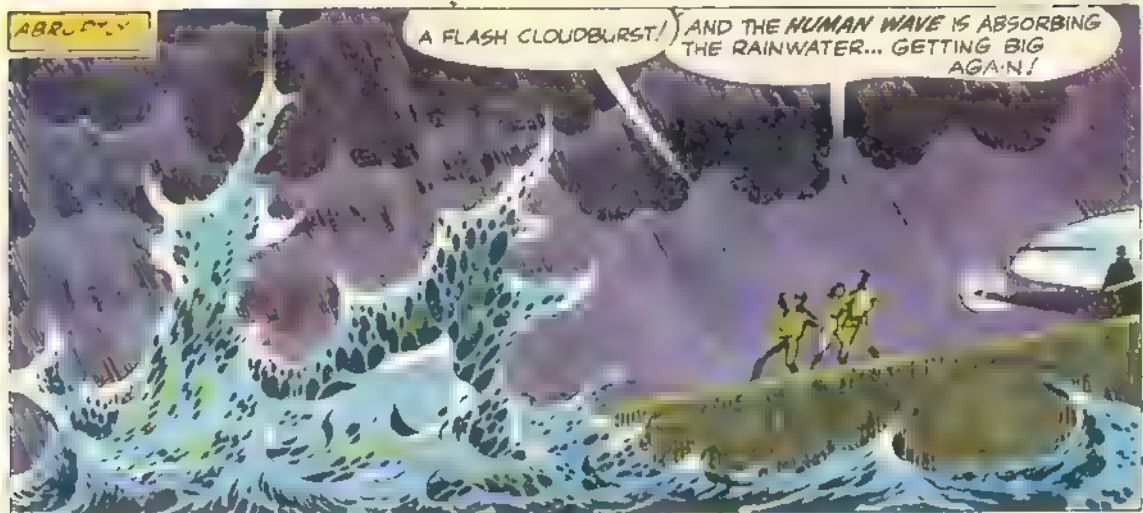
Y-YES.. AND RESUMING ITS ORIGINAL SIZE!







HOUSE OF SECRETS



ABRUPTLY

A FLASH CLOUDBURST!

AND THE HUMAN WAVE IS ABSORBING THE RAINWATER... GETTING BIG AGAIN!

AS QUICKLY AS IT CAME THE RAIN STARTS SLACKENING AS

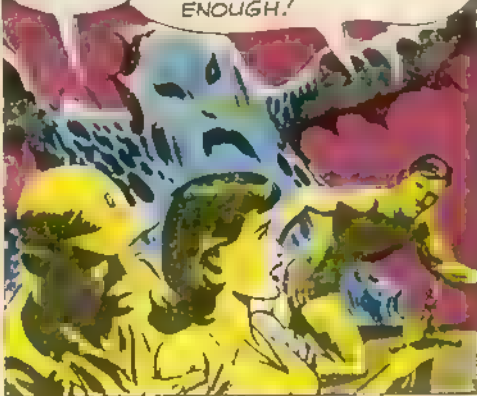
THE WAVE WILL BE OUT OF THERE IN SECONDS! HURRY--LET'S GET BACK INTO THE COPTER

NO, BRENDA! YOU TWO TAKE THE PLANE AND HEAD FOR SAFETY! THIS IS MY PROBLEM TO SOLVE!



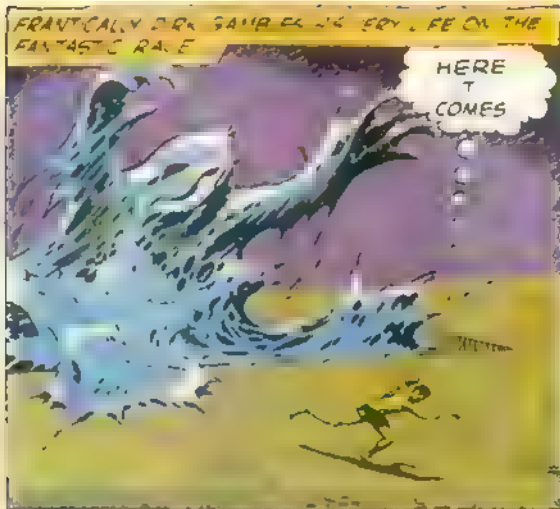
BUT DIRK... WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

FURTHER INLAND... IT'S MY ONLY HOPE--IF I CAN JUST KEEP AHEAD OF THAT MONSTER LONG ENOUGH!

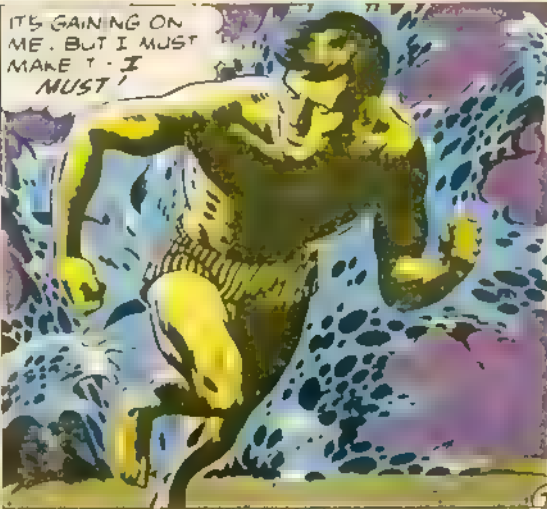


FRANTICALLY DIRK SAUBERLY ERY, FE ON THE FANTASTIC RACE

HERE IT COMES



IT'S GAINING ON ME. BUT I MUST MAKE IT--I MUST!



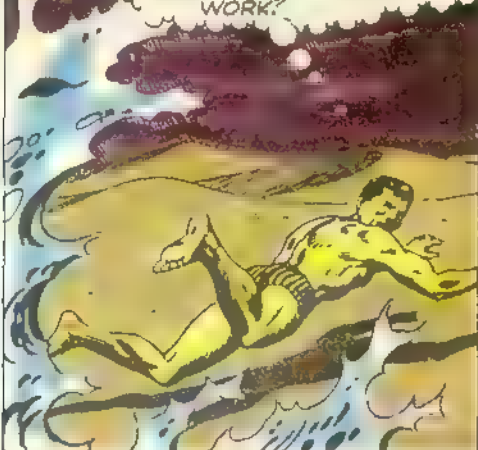


HOUSE OF SECRETS



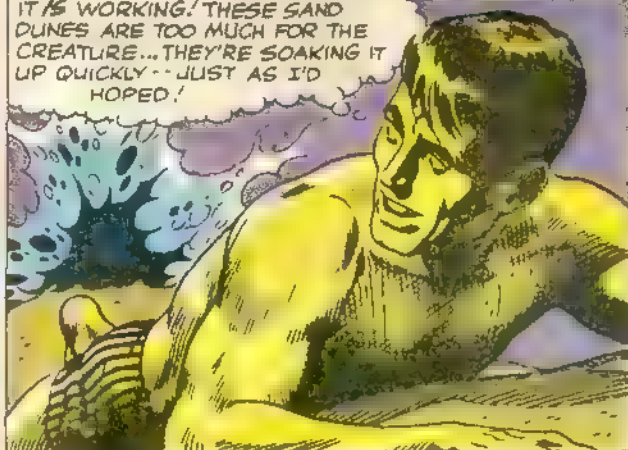
FINALLY...

THIS IS IT!... BUT WILL THE REST OF MY PLAN WORK?



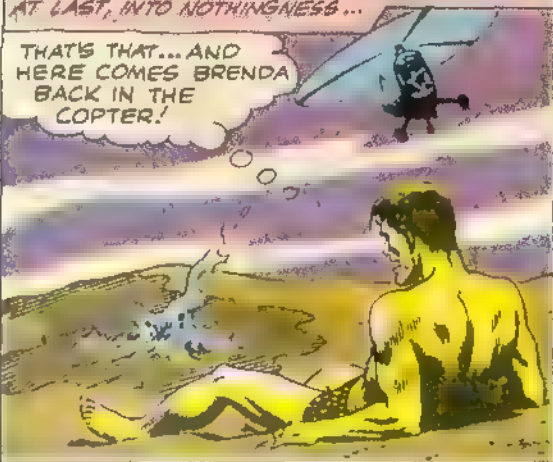
AS THE HUMAN WAVE LEAPS AFTER ITS INTENDED VICTIM.

IT IS WORKING! THESE SAND DUNES ARE TOO MUCH FOR THE CREATURE... THEY'RE SOAKING IT UP QUICKLY -- JUST AS I'D HOPED!



AND AS THE FURIOUS HUMAN WAVE SHRINKS, AT LAST, INTO NOTHINGNESS...

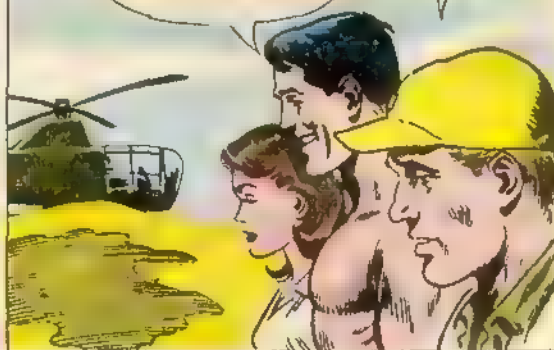
THAT'S THAT... AND HERE COMES BRENDA BACK IN THE COPTER!



PRESENTLY...

I DID IT! I TRICKED THE HUMAN WAVE INTO FOLLOWING ME INTO THIS POROUS PATCH OF LAND!

I WOULDN'T BE TOO SURE THAT YOU TRAPPED IT, SIR!



WH-WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

THE YOUNG LADY.. SHE HAD ME FLY OVER THE OCEAN SO SHE COULD DROP THE JEWELLED SWORD BACK WHERE YOU FOUND IT!



MAYBE THAT'S WHAT MADE THE HUMAN WAVE VANISH!

YES... PERHAPS, AFTER ALL, THE HUMAN WAVE SIMPLY RETURNED TO GUARD THE UNTOUCHABLE JEWELLED SWORD!



The End

FREE!

Rare Combination — Giant Collection
BRITISH EMPIRE STAMPS
plus ILLUSTRATED BOOKLET

Rush coupon *today* for one of the most generous, most unusual offers ever made! Here, **FREE**, is a giant collection of stamps from our private agents in every corner of the British Empire — new issues (some not even cataloged yet!), old issues — stamps from Africa, The Colonies, Caribbean — stamps showing the Royal Family. All *genuine*, all *different*, mint and used, topicals, pictorials, bi-colors — an amazing collection *never offered before!*

from AFRICA . . . from the CARIBBEAN!

Yes, here are beautiful stamps from the heart of Africa — Nigeria, Basutoland, Gambia. From the Caribbean, former stronghold of pirates, first landing site of Columbus — The Bahamas, Guiana, Trinidad, many others.

the COLONIES... the ROYAL FAMILY!

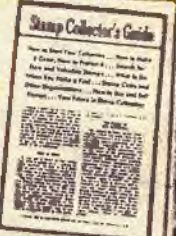
Interesting, colorful stamps from the historic British Colonies all over the world. And a wonderful opportunity to trace the history of the Royal Family — exciting, fascinating stamps from the days of Queen Victoria to the present reign of popular Queen Elizabeth II — includes George VI's Coronation, Edward VII and VIII, George V's Silver Jubilee, Royal Visits and many more!

PLUS — OTHER BIG VALUES!

Hand-picked, seldom-seen, stamps, direct from all over the Empire - think how they will grow in value, what they will mean to your collection! MORE! For your free inspection, we'll include other interesting offers, approvals, and free copy of our helpful **STAMP COLLECTOR'S GUIDE**. **IMPORTANT!** because this is a rare offer, our present supply will be exhausted shortly, so mail the coupon now! If the coupon has been clipped, send name, address and 10¢ for postage and handling to **GARCELON STAMP CO.**, Dept. 2NCP, Calais, Maine.

ALSO **FREE!**

Our **STAMP COLLECTOR'S GUIDE** will give you a world of information — how to start your collection, how to make it grow, how to buy and sell stamps — all you need to know to get the most out of America's most popular hobby.



ACT NOW!
WHILE SUPPLY LASTS

TWO BIG OFFERS FREE!

GARCELON STAMP CO., Dept. 2NCP, Calais, Maine.

RUSH British Empire Stamps, COLLECTOR'S GUIDE, other offers and approvals. Enclosed 10c for postage, handling. (PLEASE PRINT)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

DO YOU WANT SPENDING MONEY?

Sell these popular Patriotic and Religious Mottoes



SEND US NO MONEY IN ADVANCE

Just write and ask us to send you 40 of these beautiful glittering mottoes which the public likes so well. Sell them easily and quickly to your friends and neighbors for only 35c each. At the end of 14 days send back, if you wish, all mottoes you have not sold, and send us only 25c for each you have sold. You keep all the rest of the money.

IF YOU SELL 25, YOU KEEP \$2.50

IF YOU SELL 30, YOU KEEP \$3.00

IF YOU SELL ALL 40 YOU KEEP \$4.00

REMEMBER: No money is needed in advance. You take no risks. You can return all the mottoes you do not sell. You do not pay shipping costs or split your commission. You keep all the profit on each sale.

WRITE
FOR COMPLETE
DETAILS
TO ➡

STEPHENS CREDIT SALES

Dept. KN P. O. Box 1004
Nashville, Tennessee

"I don't care what your age is! Whether you're a teenager, in your 20's, 30's, 40's, or 50's.

Just RUSH me your LAST CHANCE COUPON below checking the KIND of HE-MAN BODY YOU DESIRE FAST and I'LL SEND YOU absolutely FREE 6 AMAZING PICTURE-PACKED COURSES LISTED BELOW that show you no matter what your age or condition

Formerly \$3.00 each. MILLIONS were sold at \$1.00.

How to GAIN UP TO 50 LBS. OF MIGHTY MUSCLES! or How to Change FAT into MUSCLES FAST!

THE WORLD'S GREATEST MOLDER OF HANDSOME HE-MEN and CHAMPS out of WEAKLINGS says

"SKINNY OR FAT, I'LL BUILD YOU INTO A NEW ATHLETIC STREAMLINED MIGHTY-MUSCLED HE-MAN

as I have for 35 years re-built MILLIONS like you!"

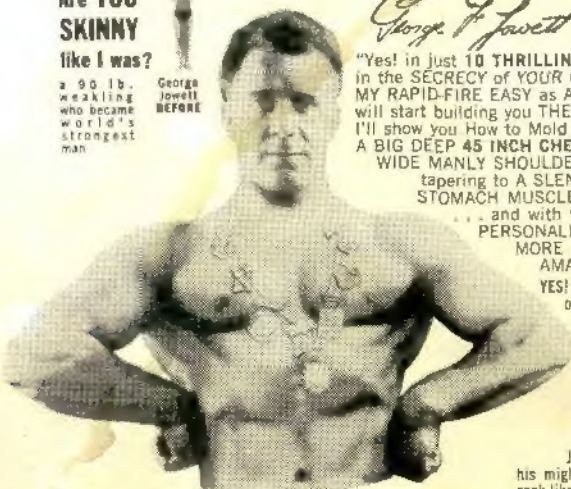
Sincerely yours for Physical Perfection . . .

Are YOU SKINNY like I was?

a 90 lb. weakling who became world's strongest man



George Jowett BEFORE



THIS IS AN ACTUAL PHOTO of YOUR TRAINER, George F. Jowett, taken after a record-breaking event, wearing some of his WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP MEDALS and MEDALS honoring him as "WORLD'S BEST BODY BUILDER." 4 TIMES WINNER of WORLD'S STRONGEST and MOST PERFECTLY DEVELOPED MAN.

George F. Jowett

"Yes! in just 10 THRILLING MINUTES a day in the SECRECY of YOUR OWN ROOM at home MY RAPID-FIRE EASY as ABC FAMOUS PICTURE METHODS will start building you THE VERY FIRST NIGHT . . . I'll show you How to Mold 16 INCH ARMS of MIGHT, A BIG DEEP 45 INCH CHEST housing TIRELESS LUNGS, WIDE MANLY SHOULDERS — A BROAD BRAWNY BACK tapering to A SLENDER WAIST with punch-proof STOMACH MUSCLES, LEGS of RUNNING POWER! . . . and with these you get a POWERFUL PERSONALITY that WINS YOU NEW FRIENDS, MORE MONEY, NEW SUCCESS, AMAZING NEW PLEASURES.

YES! Your Success Story can soon be like that of John Sill and thousands of my pupils. Think of it — a skinny weakling became a MAGNIFICENT MR. MUSCLES — won a BIG SILVER TROPHY, his name, accomplishments engraved on it, and \$100. All of which you can win! A few weeks before, everybody picked on John, too weak to fight for his rights. TODAY everybody admires John's movie star build, he-man STRENGTH, his mighty ARMS, heroic CHEST, slender WAIST, rock-like TORSO, broad manly BACK, wide military SHOULDERS, new popularity. His winning drive in ALL SPORTS, his energy at work and studies.

NO! I don't care how skinny or flabby you are now, if you're in your teens, twenties, or thirties, I'll show you in just 10 thrilling minutes in your home, how you can make yourself over by the easy, quick method I turned myself from weak to WORLD CHAMPION.

Famous Physical Directors like J. F. Kelly and Larry Campbell said "George F. Jowett is by far THE WORLD'S GREATEST MOLDER of HANDSOME HE-MEN and CHAMPS out of weaklings."



John Sill BEFORE

STOP once for all BEING A WISH-WASHY SKINNY WEAKLING like this 120 lb pupil was! "I GAINED 60 LBS. of MIGHTY MUSCLES! I added 3 1/2 INCHES to each ARM, I added 4 inches to my CHEST . . . and to the rest of my body in BALANCED PROPORTION. I won \$100. I won this 15-INCH TALL SILVER TROPHY. I won a GOLD MEDAL. John Sill

YES! YOU'LL ADD INCHES of MIGHTY MUSCLES to your ARMS, DEEPEN your CHEST, BROADEN your BACK and SHOULDERS. From HEAD to HEELS you'll gain SIZE, POWER, LIGHTNING SPEED, ENDURANCE. You'll become a SUCCESSFUL HE-MAN in LOOKS and ACTS — a WINNER in EVERYTHING, athletics, business, studies.

"Rush me YOUR LAST CHANCE COUPON below. CHECK the BODY you want and I'll show you absolutely FREE if you're SKINNY

HOW TO GAIN up to 50 LBS. of MIGHTY MUSCLES If you're FAT, have ROLLS of UGLY GREASE all over you, I'LL CHANGE YOUR FLAB into HANDSOME MUSCLE fast.



"FATSO" they called me.

"I LOST 17 LBS.

of grease, and became a MR. AMERICA, A WINNER in ALL SPORTS. Popular, Self-confident. Ernest Raines (signed also by his father and mother)



"I'm proud of you now, Tony."

"Mary, you know how they used to call me 'MR. SKINNY' — now they call me 'MR. MUSCLES'!" "You wouldn't give me a tumble before I gained 28 lbs." "I am just 41 years of age. I lost pounds of fat fast. I recommend your wonderful courses to all regardless of age. Soon they'll be as proud as I am of my new body!" Paul Lange.



Which of These Amazing Picture-Packed Courses do YOU want absolutely FREE? Check coupon below!

1. HOW TO Build POWERFUL 16 INCH ARMS like this arm of my pupil Larry Campbell.
2. HOW TO Build for YOU A BIG 45 INCH CHEST housing TIRELESS LUNGS like chest of this pupil Jim Norman World Champ. once skinny!
3. HOW TO Build WIDE SHOULDERS, A BROAD BRAWNY BACK like pupil Ernest Raines.
4. HOW TO Build LEGS of LEAPING POWER that'll make YOU A WINNER in SPORTS as it did this pupil.
5. HOW TO TRIPLE YOUR STRENGTH. Here's my once skinny pupil LARRY CAMPBELL lifting a 200 lb. anvil with his teeth.
6. BOOKS of PHOTOS of FAMOUS STRONG MEN who came to me weaker than you. I and they show you how YOU can BECOME ONE of THEM FAST

MAIL COUPON BELOW RIGHT NOW and get ALL 6 GREAT COURSES FREE for quick ACTION. FORMERLY \$5 — MILLIONS sold for \$1. They'll Build YOU STRONG while they Build you HANDSOME.

JOWETT INSTITUTE of BODY BUILDING, Dept. NC-04
220 Fifth Ave., New York 1, N. Y.

Dear George: Mail me FREE all 6 HE-MAN Building Picture Courses. Enclosed find 10c for postage & handling.

I'm checking everything I need to give me the kind of body I want:

☐ I want to gain _____ lbs. (fill-in).

☐ I want to streamline my body, get rid of flabby fat.

☐ I want to add inches of muscle to my ☐ ARMS ☐ CHEST ☐ LEGS ☐ SHOULDERS.

☐ I want to become a winning athlete. ☐ I want new pep, new energy.

NAME _____ AGE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____



8-Vol. Encyclopedia



Movie Projector



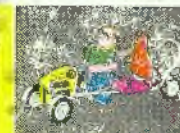
Complete Fishing Outfit



Pool Table Set



Big-3 Hunting Set



Hot Rod Racer



Badminton Sets



Flash Camera Outfits



Wrist Watches



4 Daisy Air Rifles



Girls Travel Case



Pup Tent



Major League Glove



Sleeping Bag



Elvis Presley Guitar



Complete Archery Set



Pocket Radio



Chemcraft Lab.



3-Speed Bicycle



Basketball & Goal



MAKE MONEY

GET PRIZES

with Fast Selling American Seeds

Take your choice of these wonderful prizes. They can be yours—quickly, easily. Many prizes shown here and many more in our Big Prize Book are given **WITHOUT COST** for selling just one 48-pack order of American Vegetable and Flower Seeds at 15c a pack. Some of the larger prizes require more sales or extra money as explained in the Big Prize Book.

Send NO MONEY, We Trust You

Everybody wants American Seeds. They're fresh and ready to grow. You'll sell them quickly to family, friends and neighbors. Many boys and girls sell their packs in one day. You can too—and get your prize at once. Or, if you want money instead of a prize, keep \$2.40 for every 48-pack order you sell. Mail coupon today for your first order of American Seeds and Big Prize Book—give the other coupon to a friend.

AMERICAN SEED CO.

Dept. 12
Lancaster, Pa.
OUR 42nd YEAR



MAIL ONE COUPON TODAY

Give the Other to a Friend

AMERICAN SEED CO., Dept. 12F, Lancaster, Pa.

Please send me your Big Prize Book and one order of 48 packs of American Seeds. I'll sell them at 15c a pack, send you the money and choose my prize. Send seeds checked.

☐ All Flower Seeds

☐ Mixed Vegetable and Flower Seeds

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____ State _____

AMERICAN SEED CO., Dept. 12, Lancaster, Pa.

Please send me your Big Prize Book and one order of 48 packs of American Seeds. I'll sell them at 15c a pack, send you the money and choose my prize. Send seeds checked.

☐ All Flower Seeds

☐ Mixed Vegetable and Flower Seeds

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____ State _____

EXTRA! WIN A GRAND AWARD

in our \$1800.00 PROMPTNESS CONTEST

You have an opportunity to win a Portable TV Set, a Stereo-phonie Hi-Fi Record Player, a Polaroid Land Camera, or \$100.00 cash. Information sent with Big Prize Book and Seed Packs. Be prompt! Mail coupon now!



NCA PORTABLE TV



POLAROID-LAND CAMERA



GE HI-FI RECORD PLAYER



\$100 IN CASH